

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 OMB-01 EUR-12 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 /052 W

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R 200913Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1369

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 1019

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ORIT, ELAB, RP

SUBJECT: DISSIDENT LABOR ACTIVITY

REF: MANILA 1007

1. DISSIDENT LABOR GROUP CALLING ITSELF "BUKLURAN" (ROUGHLY TRANSLATED: SOLIDARITY) HAS BEEN ATTRACTING INCREASING ATTENTION PAST SEVERAL WEEKS BY ORGANIZING SCATTERED PROTEST MEETINGS AND SYMPOSIA AS WELL AS LENDING SUPPORT TO ILLEGAL STRIKE ACTIONS. CLAIMING NEWLY FORMED UNIFIED LABOR ORGANIZATION, TUCP (TRADE UNION CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES - SEE MANILA 17510), NOT TRULY REPRESENTATIVE MASS OF WORKERS, BUKLURAN HAS BEEN PLAYING ON EMOTIONS DISSATISFIED LABOR ELEMENTS. REPORTS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES INDICATE GROUP PROMOTING MASS PROTEST RALLY SUNDAY, JANUARY 25.

2. COMMENTING JANUARY 16 TO LABATT ON BUKLURAN, LABOR UNDER-SECRETARY AMADO INCIONG NOTED MOVEMENT APPEARED TO BE ATTRACTING RADICAL CHURCH ELEMENTS AND RADICAL STUDENTS (FROM BOTH LEFT AND RIGHT), AS WELL AS DISSIDENT LABOR ELEMENTS (PARTICULARLY FROM TEXTILE INDUSTRY), HE SAID SENATOR DIOKNO APPEARED BE ONE OF RALLYING POINTS. WITH RESPECT RUMORED JANUARY 25 DEMONSTATION, INCIONG SPECULATED PROTEST WOULD CENTER ON 1) CRITICISM P.D. 823 AS AMENDED  
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(MANILY STRIKE PROVISIONS), AND 2) NON-PAYMENT OR DELAY

OF 13TH MONTH BONUS BY MANY FIRMS -- ESPECIALLY TEXTILE.  
HE BELIVED TUCP SHOULD "DO SOMETHING" TAKE INITIATIVE  
AWAY FROM BUKLURAN, BUT HAD NO SUGGESTIONS.

3. TUCP PRESIDENT ROBERTO OCA COMPLAINED TO LABATT  
JANUARY 20 THAT BUKLURAN GAINING ATTENTION AMONG WORKERS  
BY FLAUNTING LAW (SUPPORTING ILLEGAL STRIKES, ETC.), WHILE  
TUCP ABIDING BY GROUND RULES. HE FEARED POSSIBLE EXCESSES  
BY BUKLURAN GROUP COULD RESULT IN BACKLASH AGAINST LABOR,  
ESPECIALLY FROM MILITARY ELEMENTS WHO WERE PRONE TO PARTI-  
CULARLY SENSITIVE TO SUPPOSED "MARXIST" INFLUENCES. OCA  
WENT ON TO STATE HIS OPINION THAT CERTAIN CHURCH ELEMENTS  
HAD INDEED REACHED MODUS VIVENDI WITH MARXIST-LENINIST COMMUNISTS,  
AND FEARED MANY GULLIBLE PRIESTS WERE BEING "USED". HE TOO HAD  
GOTTEN WORD OF POSSIBLE DEMONSTRATION JANUARY 25 WHICH WOULD PROBABLY  
BE "PROTEST AGAINST EVERYTHING".

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT SECRETARY OPLE'S  
REFERENCE TO "MASS DISORDERS FOR POLITICAL REASONS" (REFTEL)  
MADE WITH REPORTED JANUARY 25 DEMONSTRATION IN MIND.  
ACCORDING TO INCIONG, MILITARY AUTHORITIES WOULD ALLOW  
SUCH RALLY TAKE PLACE UNDER SAME GROUND RULES APPLIED TO  
EARLIER DECEMBER 6 PROTEST RALLY, E.E. THAT IT BE CON-  
TROLLED AND ORDERLY. STULL

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** ELAB, RP, TUCP, TRADE UNION CONGRESS PHILIPPINES, BUKLURAN  
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